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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/827,259	04/20/2004	Riccardo Lonati	38915/GM/pal	2398

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EXAMINER
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UNELUS, ERNEST

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2187

DATE MAILED: 07/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/827,259

Applicant(s)

LONATI, RICCARDO

Examiner

Ernest Unelus

Art Unit

2181

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04/20/2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

  
FRITZ FLEMING  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 09/10/04.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. 7/7/2008
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. The instant application having Application No. 10/827,259 has a total of 6 claims pending in the application; there is 1 independent claim and 5 dependent claims, all of which are ready for examination by the examiner.

#### **I. INFORMATION CONCERNING OATH/DECLARATION**

##### **Oath/Declaration**

2. The applicant's oath/declaration has been reviewed by the examiner and is found to conform to the requirements prescribed in 37 C.F.R. 1.63.

#### **II. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT**

3. As required by M.P.E.P. 609(C), the applicant's submissions of the Information Disclosure Statement dated September 10, 2004 is acknowledged by the examiner and the cited references have been considered in the examination of the claims now pending. As required by M.P.E.P 609 C(2), a copy of the PTOL-1449 initialed and dated by the examiner is attached to the instant office action.

#### **III. OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS**

4. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the invention must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

#### **IV. REJECTIONS BASED ON PRIOR ART**

##### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. **Claims 1-6** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fredriksson (US pat. 5,246,039) in view of Davidson et al. (US pat. 5,428,748).

7. As per **claim 1**, Fredriksson discloses a method for numbering peripheral devices **(peripheral devices 5,6,7, and 8 in fig. 1)** mounted on a knitting machine **(knitting machine 1 in fig 1)**, comprising the steps of: communicating, on the part of each peripheral device, a universal address belonging to said peripheral device and assigned uniquely during production **( in col. 5, lines 41-50, Fredriksson discloses communicating, on the part of each peripheral device 5,6,7, and 8 in fig. 1, a universal address belonging to said peripheral devices)**; transmitting, on the part of said machine, to each peripheral device, an incremental logic address once reception of said universal addresses has ended **(see col. 5, lines 44-55)**; associating, on the part of a user of the machine, an identification number of each peripheral device to be linked to said logic address **(see col. 11, lines 54-63, which discloses an identification number of each peripheral device to be linked to devices having a logic address)**; said automatic numbering of said peripheral devices occurring by communicating with the machine over a serial line **(see col. 4, lines 36-36 and col. 5. lines, 43-50, which discloses automatic numbering of the peripheral devices occurring by communicating with the machine over a serial line)**. Fredriksson fail to specifically discloses the universal address belonging to the peripheral device is assigned during production.

Davidson discloses the universal address belonging to the peripheral device is assigned during production **(see col. 5, lines 7-9)**.

Art Unit: 2181

Fredriksson (US pat. 5,246,039) and Davidson et al. (US pat. 5,428,748) are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of serial communication between a computer and peripheral devices having addresses.

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the arrangement for controlling and/or supervising, with the aid of a computerized system, a number of elements/functions forming part of a textile machine, yarn feed element as taught by Fredriksson and a method and apparatus for automatically configuring a peripheral device with a host computer so that a user is not required to identify and set an input/output address for the peripheral as taught by Davidson.

*Revised 7/7/2006* The motivation for doing so would have been because Davidson ~~King~~ teaches that **[having the peripherals addresses pre-install during production save a user the time of interring them. see col. 1, lines 8-11]**.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Davidson et al. (US pat. 5,428,748) with Fredriksson (US pat. 5,246,039) for the benefit of creating a method for numbering peripheral devices mounted on a knitting machine to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1

8. As per **claim 2**, the combination of Fredriksson with Davidson disclose the method according to claim 1 (see **rejection to claim 1 above**): “comprising the additional step of verifying, by said machine, that said identification number assigned by the user to a peripheral device has not been already assigned to another peripheral device” **[(with respect to this limitation, Davidson discloses “It is a basic requirement in such computer systems that no**

**two peripheral devices may be assigned the same I/O address, because that would cause the operation of the two peripheral devices to interfere with each other”)**

**(see col. 1, lines 45-49)]**

9. As per **claim 3**, the combination of Fredriksson with Davidson disclose the method according to claim 1 (see **rejection to claim 1 above**): “comprising the additional step of assigning, by said user, together with said identification number, one or more elements of said machine to said peripheral device” [(with respect to this limitation, see **Fredriksson, col. 11, lines 54-63**)

10. As per **claim 4**, the combination of Fredriksson with Davidson disclose the method according to claim 1 (see **rejection to claim 1 above**): “wherein said peripheral device is a thread status sensor” [(with respect to this limitation, see **Fredriksson, col. 18, lines 33-36**).

11. As per **claim 5**, the combination of Fredriksson with Davidson disclose the method according to claim 1 (see **rejection to claim 1 above**): “wherein said peripheral device is a thread feeder” [(with respect to this limitation, see **Fredriksson, col. 4, line 27**).

12. As per **claim 6**, the combination of Fredriksson with Davidson disclose the method according to claim 1 (see **rejection to claim 1 above**): “wherein said peripheral device is any device that is present on the machine in more than one unit” [(with respect to this limitation, see **Fredriksson, fig. 1**).

Art Unit: 2181

**V. RELEVANT ART CITED BY THE EXAMINER**

13. The following prior art made of record and not relied upon is cited to establish the level of skill in the applicant's art and those arts considered reasonably pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See MPEP 707.05(c).

14. The following reference teaches a method for numbering peripheral devices mounted on a knitting machine.

**U.S. PATENT NUMBER**

US 5,285,821

US 4,788,835

US 4,899,287

US 2005/0204781

US 6,513,554

US 6,295,481

**VI. CLOSING COMMENTS**

**Conclusion**

**a. STATUS OF CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION**

15. The following is a summary of the treatment and status of all claims in the application as recommended by M.P.E.P. 707.07(i):

**a(1) CLAIMS REJECTED IN THE APPLICATION**

16. Per the instant office action, claims 1-6 have received a first action on the merits and are subject of a first action non-final.



Art Unit: 2181

**b. DIRECTION OF FUTURE CORRESPONDENCES**

17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ernest Unelus whose telephone number is (571) 272-8596. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

**IMPORTANT NOTE**

18. If attempts to reach the above noted Examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Mr. Fritz M. Fleming, can be reached at the following telephone number: Area Code (571) 272-4145.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

July 7, 2006

Ernest Unelus  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2181  
*[Signature]*  
FRITZ FLEMING  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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7/7/2006